



Admirers of the genius of Edgar Allan Poe, and their name is legion, have been very much interested in the play of George H. H. Puck, founded on the romantic career of the poet and called "The Raven." It was brought out at Annapolis, Md., the other night, the character of Poe being taken by Henry Ludlow, who has won a reputation in Shakespearean roles, and was a most pronounced success. The scenes are laid in Richmond, New York and Baltimore, and deal largely with the poet's literary life, one tableau in the third scene representing him at a table writing the celebrated poem. Several of Poe's well-known love affairs are worked into the play. Apropos of this illustration, which people seem determined shall not be allowed to rest quietly in his grave, quite a new light is thrown on his character by Mr. John Macy in the December number of the Atlantic. Mr. Macy says Poe was "a solemn, unconvivial, humorless man, who took no joy in his cups," and that he could not write a line except when he was entirely sober. The fact is, liquor made Poe ill, and he got no pleasurable sensations whatever from it, in which fact Mr. Macy apparently finds a sort of regret, for he thinks that Poe, above all men, absolutely needed relaxation, and that jovial, friendly intercourse which usually follows the milder forms of dissipation. All of which is so directly opposed to the idea we have always had of Poe in this respect that it is quite difficult to accept this view of his latest defender. Mr. Macy says that Poe spent his days in hard work, and none of his earnings on himself, giving them all to his mother-in-law, so that he could not have had much money to spend on the frequent "sprees" which are made so important in most of the biographies of the poet. His appetites, it is claimed, were "mainly intellectual, and he lived, worked and died in intellectual solitude." He left few friends, the only ones who really seemed to mourn him were two or three women. Mr. Macy brushes aside the "vague whisperings of suppressed matters" which have hitherto been associated with the name of Poe, and presents the "real Poe" as a simple, perfectly intelligible and rather ordinary man. His article is very interesting.

Angelo Basso, the Italian sandwich man, who died in New York the other day, is another illustration of the fact that honesty is the best policy, and that anyone will succeed in this world who does something better than anyone else, even the making of sandwiches. Angelo

sold sandwiches for 40 years, and died at the age of 67, leaving \$250,000. He sold the biggest sandwich in New York for five cents, and not only was it big, but it was so good that business men would walk a considerable distance to get one. Years ago, when six-day walking matches were held in Madison Gardens, and people went there on Monday morning and stayed till Saturday night, Angelo reaped a rich harvest, for he was wise enough to keep his sandwiches constantly on sale, on these occasions. Angelo was a good man, too, for when a person was too poor to pay for one of his famous combinations of bread and meat he gave it away cheerfully to hungry boy or girl, starving man or woman. Angelo Basso's sandwiches were as unchanging as the revolution of the earth around the sun. They never grew even the least bit smaller, the bread was always just right, neither too old nor too fresh, and the meat was invariably sweet and tender. Of course, he made money.

A very beautiful explanation has recently been made of President Cleveland's religious belief, of which he himself, during his lifetime, said very little and only to those near him. But while he said little, he spent many hours in silent contemplation on this subject, as those who knew and loved him best can testify. His faith was almost childlike in its simplicity, and having accepted God the Father and Christ the Son, he made no attempt to solve the great mystery which he felt could not be analyzed or argued, but accepted it as he did the flowers, the sunlight or the wonderful gift of human love and the intimacies of the home.

That we do not get all that we ought from our educational system, extent as it is supposed to be, is felt by most thinking persons, and is shown by hundreds of boys and girls being turned out every year from our schools who gradually find their way into that great army of "misfits" and "unsuccessfuls." Indeed, this very education has in many cases totally unfitted the boy or girl, young man or young woman, for a vocation in which they might otherwise have been entirely successful and infinitely more happy than at account. Educators and philanthropists are continually studying this great question of how to make education the most helpful in the battle of life, and recently a citizen of New York gave a fund of \$100,000 to a new educational movement which believes in developing the executive ability rather than filling the head with so much book knowledge.

Those connected with this movement feel, like most of us, that the ordinary school system misestimates many highly important things, the development of the executive faculty being one, if not the most important. We see all around us men of very little if any education, who have been most successful on account of this faculty, and, on the other hand, men of the highest education who have made failures of their lives because of the lack of it. The feeling that education should be more practical seems to be greatly on the increase.

One is apt to think of the French peasants or working people as exceedingly light of heart, and the very careful of their souls, usually managing to have a pretty good time, sipping cheap wine or cafe au lait at some restaurant with more or less fair companion, or in some other inexpensive but soul-satisfying manner. The fact is, no class in any country work harder or have less joyous lives than these same French men and women of the poorer classes. Appreciating this, a certain Frenchman, over 80 years ago, left at his death all his fortune, then amounting to \$50,000, now increased to \$1,200,000, to be distributed in prizes each year to those among this class who most deserved to be rewarded for some act of virtue. The French Academy awards the prizes, and the other day, in the midst of the Steinhell excitement, the ceremonies attending the distribution took place. Over 113 cases of good deeds done in the face of great poverty and other hard conditions, requiring heroic self-sacrifice, were reported and rewarded accordingly. One case was most striking. A poor girl at the age of 20 had gone into the family of a Breton farmer and worked 13 years, when his wife died, leaving him with three little children. The farmer was a good-hearted man, but inclined to drink, and Marie, the servant, did not know what to do. She loved the children, who needed her care, and she felt sorry for the man, and to her simple, ignorant, faithful mind it seemed her duty to remain and continue her service. By her position she felt to be somewhat difficult, after the death of the wife, so she went to a near-by city, and became a member of a religious order, which involves the vows of chastity, poverty and obedience, then returned and resumed her charge of the farm and the farmer. She brought up the children, managed the money affairs of the farmer, made a model place of the farm, and after 60 years of service is still in the employ of the family, receiving no more than \$12 a year for her faithful service. Marie certainly deserved a prize for a life of as perfect, if somewhat misdirected, self-sacrifice, in worldly eyes, as has ever been chronicled.

One of King Edward of England's prerogatives, is his right to forbid a publication, and, urged by his Queen, who is a deeply religious woman, he has recently issued a royal edict closing all theaters or music halls on Sundays, Christmas day, or Good Friday, unless the circumstances in favor of their being kept open are most exceptional. The English middle classes have a great respect for Sunday, and these entertainments, beginning with sacred concerts, and followed by cinematograph display of Biblical pictures,

have each year grown more secular and frivolous, and their managers on the Sabbath do the best business of the week. The King has been greatly commended for this act, and so perfectly is he in touch with the people and so careful of offending their prejudices, that, fond of racing as he is known to be, he has never in his life been present at that greatest of all races on the continent, the Paris Grand Prix, which takes place always on Sunday.

A musical composer named Silas G. Pratt has taken the popular music, songs, etc., of Lincoln's day and has cleverly woven them into a symphony written to commemorate the 100th anniversary of that great man. The composition contains much purely original work also, and the symphony, which has been played before an audience of literary and musical people, was received with great enthusiasm. The public has not been told what particular airs Mr. Pratt has chosen for his work, but it is presumed that they are those sung and played about the time of the civil war by the people over the country and by the soldiers gathered in camp and around campfires, and which are practically unknown to the present generation. However, aside from the interest or lack of it which the symphony may have and aside from any musical merit it may possess, all Americans will applaud any efforts made to do Lincoln honor, and should it make one of the aims in life of all Americans, would be but poor and single business, in showing our love and appreciation of the exalted character of our martyred President.

AUGUSTA, GA.

The Venerable Georgia City Which the President-Elect is Making His Winter Home.

The quaint old Southern city of Augusta, Ga., which President-elect Taft will make his home for a few weeks, is a place of much historical interest as well as of charming location. It owes its establishment to the same reasons which determined those of Philadelphia, Georgetown, Fredericksburg, Alexandria, Richmond and Gettysburg, N. C. That is, it is at the head of navigation, where the waters from the mountains and the Piedmont region fall over the granite shelf into the tide water below. The rolling plain on which the city is built is 150 feet above the sea, and the fall in the river is utilized for manufacturing purposes. A canal nine miles long and 150 feet wide takes the water from the river into the city, furnishes the municipality its water supply and 14,000 horse power for the factories. For these very early in the history of the country and Georgia was peculiar in the South in being a staid and slowly progressive manufacturing center. During the war it supplied much of the material needed by the Confederate armies, particularly clothing, and it, therefore, became quite an objective for the Union army, although it was never taken nor even seriously menaced. Sherman made good use of the Confederate solicitude for Augusta in his march to the sea, and the Confederate soldiers who were probably three to

one that he had started for Augusta, and the concentrated force for its protection. Sherman kept up this illusion as long as possible, sending Kilpatrick to make a dashing fight at Savannah, within a few miles of the city, as if to cover his advance. While Kilpatrick and Wheeler were charging and counter-charging, Sherman's heavy columns headed down the peninsula between the Savannah and the Ogeechee rivers for Savannah and had made such headway that it was too late for the Confederates to start a force in front when the mistake was discovered. Again Sherman successfully used this ruse to divert attention from his true line of march when he started thru South Carolina. After he crossed the river into that State it was his policy to keep the Confederates guessing whether he intended to go to Charleston or Augusta, and he gave a strong impression in favor of the latter place by sending Kilpatrick on another furious dash as if to ride into the city from the Savannah side. Kilpatrick's rough riders put up a very lively fight at Alken, only 18 miles from Augusta, and the Confederates were certain that the next thing would be the appearance of Sherman's infantry columns behind his bold horsemen. Indeed, Sherman went to Columbia.

When Sherman settled in 1732, the objects of the colony, as expressed in the charter, were to make it a home for "decayed English gentlemen and persons of the first rank of the continent." These decayed English gentlemen were given the low, flat, tide-water country as the most valuable, while the German Protestants, who were seeking refuge from the persecutions of the Roman Catholics, had to go into the back country, or what we know as the Piedmont. The name Augusta indicates this, as it was a favorite German cognomen and borne by several Queens, Grand Duchesses and Princesses of German States. Augusta is finely laid out with broad, beautifully-shaded streets, intersected at right angles, and comfortable, home-like residences. There are many really fine old buildings in the city and many literary and educational institutions. Among these is a fine public library, a Masonic Temple, Oddfellows' Hall, Cotton Exchange, the Georgia Medical College, Richmond Academy and St. Mary's Academy. There are many parks and two fine monuments, one to the Georgia signers of the Declaration of Independence and the other to the Confederate soldiers.

The city was given a charter as late as 1738, when Oglethorpe, the white and benevolent founder of the colony, established it as a trading station and military post for his colony. It was long an important meeting place for conferences of the Cherokees, Creeks and Choctaws with the whites, and during the Revolution it was at first captured by the British, then retaken, again captured by the British, and then made to endure a protracted siege by the forces of Gen. Pickens and Col. Henry Lee, who at last compelled its surrender. It was for a while the Capital of Georgia, and in 1817 was chartered as a city.

In spite of its great natural resources it has grown very slowly. In 1850 it had only 13,493 population, quite small for a place of its importance. It has grown much faster since the war than before, tho this growth has not at-

tracted much attention, and the census of 1900 showed 39,441 people. The climate is said to be delightful and even better than that of Alken, S. C., only 18 miles away, which has become celebrated as a winter resort.

Widows' Pensions.

Mrs. Taylor Forester, Vinton, Iowa, thinks that the Government is treating the veterans' widows very unjustly. Many widows are struggling hard to help maintain their homes and take care of their husbands, who fought so bravely for their country. In some cases they have to lift them from their chairs, turn them over in their beds and care for them continually, even more than for a helpless child. These husbands are getting only \$12 a month pension, which must pay all the expense of the home, and when they die the widows, who have done so much and suffered so much for the country, are left with nothing. The widows deserve far more attention from Congress than they have yet received.

Pennsylvania Pension Bill.

C. E. Applebaugh, 110th Pa., 6th U. S. Cav., 76th Pa., Juniata, Pa., says "as" very decidedly to the draft of the Pennsylvania pension bill. His objections are that it has too many soft political snags. He does not want any Pension Department of Pennsylvania, with \$75,000 a year for expenses. He would let every Pennsylvania soldier, without regard to residence, prove his claim before the Secretary of Internal Affairs. This officer should then certify the same to the State Treasurer, who would send a check direct to the soldier. Every Pennsylvania soldier's widow should be pensioned at the same rate, or from \$7 to \$10 per month.

Took His Family to the Polls.

R. D. Carpenter, Camden, Mo., wants to know who can show a better political record than this: He served in the 44th Mo., and has four boys and a son-in-law, all of whom voted with him, and they cast six ballots for William H. Taft. His four boys carried him behind the drum corps to cast the first vote he has been able to for 12 years. He was captured at Franklin, taken to Andersonville, and kept there until the close of the war. He still suffers from the horrors of that imprisonment, and has not been able to walk for 18 years. He would like to hear from his comrades.

Wealthy Kansas.

Comrade P. D. Coburn, the energetic and resourceful Secretary of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, is out with his annual bulletin of his State's increase in wealth during 1908. He figures the total value of the farm products for the year at the enormous sum of \$277,733,953.52, and with the live stock this swells to \$475,244,831, an increase in value over the previous year of \$11,596,224.

The Gunboat Massasoit.

S. H. Black, Willow Springs, Mo., wants some one to give him the names of the commissioned officers on the gunboat Massasoit, the date that she went into commission and the date that she went out.

Pension News.

See classified ads. on page 7.

I Cure FITS

My Advice is Free. Write Today.



Death often occurs when you fall on the street in a fit. Why take the chance when you can be cured!

During the last 35 years I have cured thousands of sufferers, people who have tried every other known remedy, but found each one a complete failure. Then they heard of me—wrote for free advice as I am asking you to do, and were cured. Testimonials are my proofs. I will send you scores of such letters as the following:

Committee on Judiciary, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. Dear Sir: I regard Dr. Towns' cure of my brother and Congressman Dahle, of Wisconsin, as wonderful. Neither had any relief until Dr. Towns treated them. Very truly, (Signed) John J. Jenkins.

Let me send you my booklet on Epilepsy. IT'S FREE. Address Dr. W. Towns, Medical Co., Dept. 162, Fond Du Lac, Wis., U. S. A.

Eucalyptus Mahogany.

In view of the forestry agitation a great deal of interest has been aroused as to the growth of the eucalyptus, or blue gum. It is represented that this would be a very profitable investment, and as much as \$2,500 per acre income has been reported from the lumber of a 10-year-old grove. Eucalyptus is a valuable timber, and will take the place of oak, walnut, ash, birch, maple, pine, etc., and imported mahogany for a number of uses. It is said that in 10 years a eucalyptus tree will make a growth of 11 inches in diameter and 32 feet in height, equal to the average hickory of 160 years. Those who desire to know more about this can obtain a bulletin from the Forest Society of California, 514 Stinson Building, Los Angeles, by enclosing four cents in stamps.

Abraham Lincoln—His Life and Work

BY NOAH BROOKS

CENTENNIAL EDITION

Prepared in Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of the Martyr President

A Large Octavo Volume—484 Pages. Printed from New Plates, in Large Type. Embellished with Numerous Interesting Illustrations. Fine, Heavy Paper, Substantially Bound. Clearly and Fully Indexed.

Price \$2.00

CHARACTER OF THE WORK.

The Noah Brooks Life of Lincoln is both interesting and accurate. In simple style that never wearies the reader or relaxes its grasp of his attention, the writer gives a lifelike picture of "Lincoln as men knew him."

The author speaks briefly of his ancestors, their condition and surroundings, dwells more at length on the childhood and youth of his subject, the hard conditions with which he contended in acquiring the elements of an education, and his early ups and downs in the struggle to make a livelihood.

Numerous anecdotes are recorded illustrating Lincoln's quaint sense of humor, sympathy and kindness of heart, his gigantic physical strength. The beginning of his law practice and growing interest in political questions are noted. The Black Hawk War is recalled, and Lincoln's satisfaction at having been elected Captain of his company.

Events begin to crowd. We find Lincoln in the Illinois Legislature and a member of the Thirtieth Congress. The great National awakening comes, and the Kansas struggle. Lincoln is now pitted against Douglas—"the Little Giant"—and the famous debates ensue. He is nominated for President and elected.

The beginning of the great struggle follows fast, then comes the slavery question, difficulties in the military situation, turning in the tide of war. Here the author interposes interesting chapters, descriptive of the home life of the Lincoln family in the White House, Lincoln's relations with his Cabinet, etc. And then comes the tragic end of a strange, eventful, great career.

DESCRIPTION.

Large Octavo Volume, 484 Pages, Illustrated, Large, Clear Type, Good Paper, Scarlet and Gold Binding, Intelligently Indexed, Printed from New Plates, A Handsome Volume.

LITERARY MERITS.

Interesting, Accurate, Full of Anecdotes, Well-balanced, A Beautiful Gift, A Fitting Centennial Memento, Every Home Should Have a Copy, Every Citizen Should Read It, Of Special Interest to Civil War Veterans, Their Wives, Sons, Daughters and Descendants.

A Patriotic Purpose.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE

Believes that the most fitting, educational memorial of Abraham Lincoln on the one hundredth anniversary of his birth would be the placing within the reach of every man, woman and child in the United States the true story of his life.

The wealthy philanthropist who would distribute 10,000,000 copies of such a book in as many homes would do more effective work in preserving the memory of Abraham Lincoln and quickening regard for his lofty ideals than by spending a like amount in building and endowing a university bearing his name, or by constructing a great highway dedicated to his memory. No memorial monument of marble or bronze could hope to equal in effectiveness such an introduction into the homes of a permanent record of what Lincoln was and what he did.

Order Blank to be used when Book alone is wanted.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, Washington, D. C.:

Inclosed find \$2 for "Abraham Lincoln—His Life and Work," Centennial Edition, by Noah Brooks.

Name

P. O.

State

Order Blank for Book and The National Tribune.

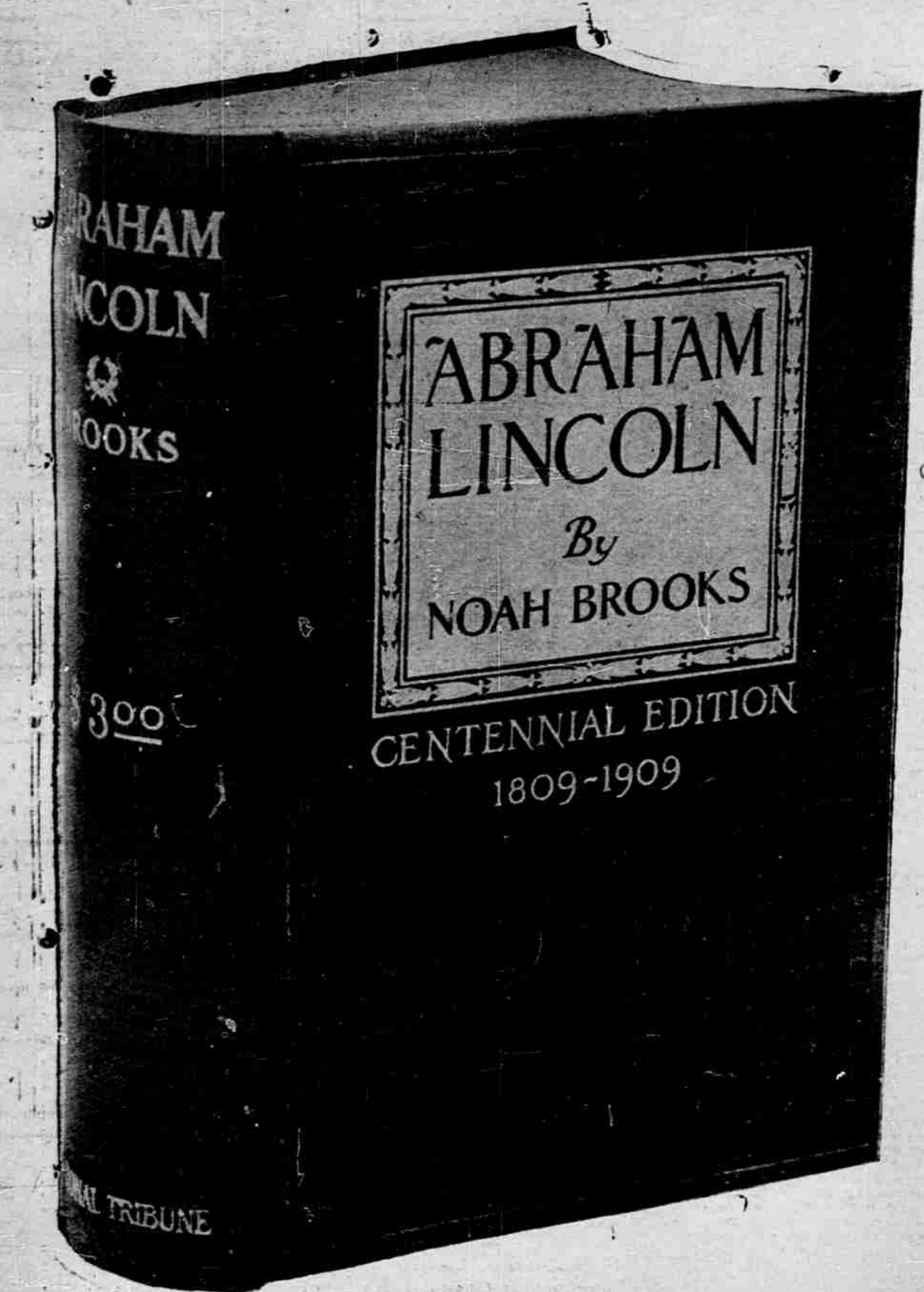
THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, Washington, D. C.:

Inclosed find \$2.50 for one year's subscription to THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE and "Abraham Lincoln—His Life and Work," Centennial Edition, by Noah Brooks. Both are to be sent postpaid.

Name

P. O.

State



This Book and The National Tribune one year, Both Postpaid for \$2.50